

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-12, and 25-33 remain pending in the application.

Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 1-5, 7 and 25 – 29, 33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by McArthur (US Patent No. 5,805,806), hereinafter McArthur, and claims 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over McArthur as applied in claim 8, and in view of Terry et al. (US Patent No. 5,499,047), hereinafter Terry.

The Examiner, in the Response to Arguments states:

It is noticed that the "universal client interface adapters" being claimed is just an interface adapter used "in communication with as least one client and in communication with as least one other universal client interface adapter." McArthur teaches LAN interface 26 and tap-off 12 in communication with PC 2 and in communication with another tap-off 12 and LAN interface 30 (see figure 1). Thus, McArthur teaches the "universal client interface adapter" being claimed.

Applicant respectfully submits that the term "universal client interface adapter" has a specific meaning. Having a universal client interface means that the same adapter may be connected to various types of clients. The Examiner makes reference to LAN interface 26 and tap-off 12 being in communication with another tap-off and LAN interface 30. However, the description of McArthur, with respect to these two interfaces (LAN and LAN/Video respective) states:

It is assumed that PC 16 has the capability to output NSC video, while PC 14 does not have such capability. Therefore, PC 16 is interface with the network 1 via LAN/video interface 30, which includes components that provide a video interface with the network 1. PC 14 is interfaced with the network via LAN interface 26, which does not include a video interface.

(McArthur, column 6, lines 15-21). Furthermore, McArthur provides examples of the interfaces in Figures 7 and 8, further pointing out differences between these interfaces. Therefore, McArthur does not describe these interfaces as "universal interfaces," but rather

quite specifically teaches away from a universal interface, by stating that different types of interfaces are used, depending on the capabilities of the system to which the interface is coupled. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that McArthur does not teach or suggest the use of a "universal client interface adapter" as claimed in the present invention.

The Examiner notes that

McArthur further discloses frequency-shift keying (FSK) encoding scheme is utilized for the baseband digital information; however, other encoding schemes as possible. For example, quadrature amplitude modulation (QAM) or a simple one volt peak-to-peak digital signal are possible alternatives to FSK (see col. 4, lines 40-45). Therefore, McArthur teaches a carrier modulated signal. It is also noticed that McArthur discloses PC 16 provides video information to modulator 120 via PCI bus 90 and the video can be modulated onto any of the eight local video channels SN1 through SN1. The modulated video is then provided to the network 1. PC16 also provides bi-directional communication of baseband digital to PCI 90 and then is transmitted to network 1 (see figure 7 and col. 8, lines 6-43); and a frequency-shift keying (FSK) encoding scheme is utilized for the baseband digital information; however, other encoding schemes as possible. For example, quadrature amplitude modulation (QAM) or a simple one volt peak-to-peak digital signal are possible alternatives to FSK (see col. 4, lines 40-45). Therefore, McArthur teaches "processing the digitized data within the first universal client interface adapter into a carrier modulated digital signal having a signal operating frequency that is greater than a signal cut off frequency defined for conventional coaxial cable services."

(Office Action, page 2, emphasis added).

Applicants agree that McArthur discusses FSK encoding, and suggests that quadrature amplitude modulation (QAM) or one volt peak-to-peak digital signal may be used as alternatives. However, neither QAM nor peak-to-peak digital signals teaches or suggests a carrier modulated signal. QAM is amplitude modulated, as denoted by its name. A digital signal may be modulated in various ways. However, using a peak-to-peak digital signal does not teach or suggest carrier modulation. McArthur does not mention the use of carrier modulation of these signals.

Furthermore, none of these encoding techniques specify an operating frequency that is greater than the signal cut off frequency for conventional coaxial cable services. Rather,

McArthur specifically states that "In accordance with the present invention, the range of frequencies from 0 to 50 MHz is used for a local baseband (unmodulated) digital network in the home." Thus, McArthur does not teach or suggest having a signal operating frequency greater than the signal cutoff frequency defined for conventional coaxial cable services. (See McArthur, Table 1, for example.)

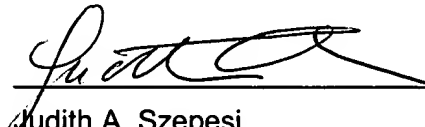
Applicants respectfully submit that in view of the discussion set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, the present and amended claims should be found to be in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Judith A. Szepesi at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,
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